



07/441570

CONFIRMATION COPY

ABSTRACT

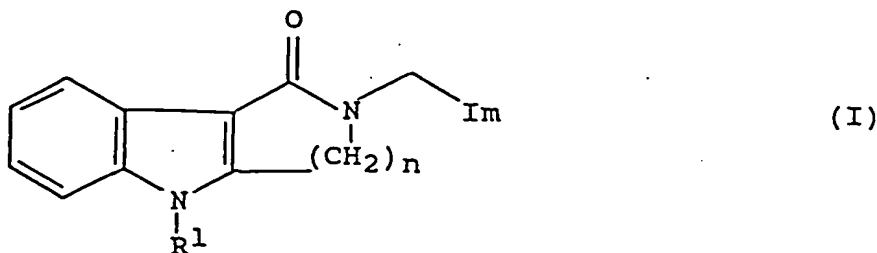
LACTAM DERIVATIVES

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The invention relates to tricyclic lactams of the general formula (I)

T/OX

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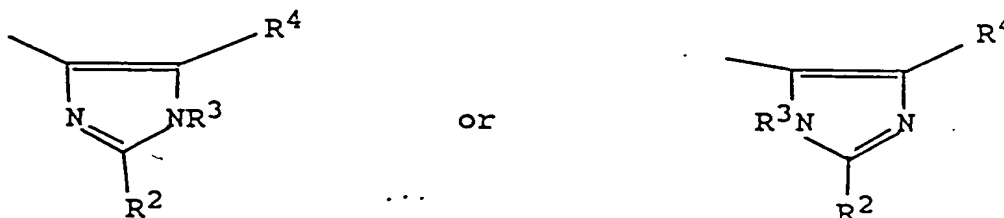


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wherein Im represents an imidazolyl group of the formula:

T/OX

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and R<sup>1</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a group selected from C<sub>1</sub>-6alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-6alkenyl, C<sub>3</sub>-10alkynyl, C<sub>3</sub>-7cycloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-7cycloalkylC<sub>1</sub>-4alkyl, phenyl, phenylC<sub>1</sub>-3alkyl, phenylmethoxymethyl, phenoxyethyl or phoxymethyl, ~~-CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, -COR<sup>5</sup>, -CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup> or -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup> (wherein R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup>, which may be the same or different, each represents a hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1</sub>-6alkyl or C<sub>3</sub>-7cycloalkyl group or a phenyl or phenylC<sub>1</sub>-4alkyl group, in which the phenyl group is optionally substituted by one or more C<sub>1</sub>-4alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-4alkoxy or hydroxy groups or halogen atoms, with the proviso that R<sup>5</sup> does not represent a hydrogen atom when R<sup>1</sup> represents a group -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup> or -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup>),~~

one of the groups represented by R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> is a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-6alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-7cycloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-6alkenyl, phenyl or phenylC<sub>1</sub>-3alkyl group, and each of the other two

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axR

axR30

axR

axR

axR

axR

axR25

axR

groups, which may be the same or different, represents a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl group;

n represents 2 or 3;

and physiologically acceptable salts and solvates thereof.

5        The compounds are potent and selective antagonists of the effect of 5-HT at 5-HT<sub>3</sub> receptors and are useful, for example, in the treatment of psychotic disorders, anxiety, and nausea and vomiting.